(*b*) if not, whether he had consulted these abovenamed bodies and the Director of Public Instruction before revising the scales of pay;

(*c*) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, whether their opinion was in favour of the revision;

(*d*) since the introduction of G.O. No. 4619, L. & M., dated 20th October 1934, how many local bodies and teachers' unions have protested against this Government Order;

(*e*) since the introduction of this G.O. No. 4619, L. & M., dated 20th October 1934, how many bodies have interviewed the Minister and how many have sought interviews with him asking him to rescind this Government Order; what replies were given to each of them;

(*f*) why was the recognized principle of the Public Service to exclude old incumbents from the operation of the new scales of pay when they adversely affect them, not applied in the case of teachers in the service of the local bodies; and

(*g*) how many representations have been received by the Government requesting them to give the old incumbents the old scale of pay?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The Director of Public Instruction was consulted.

(*c*) The Director of Public Instruction was in favour of the revision.

(*d*) & (*e*) A large number of representations were received. No useful purpose is likely to be served by giving further details.

(*f*) The Government were agreeable to the grant of personal pay in all cases of real hardship and so they did not consider it necessary to exclude existing teachers from the operation of the Government Order. Attention of the hon. Member is also invited to the reply of the Hon. the Chief Minister to the adjournment motion on the subject on the 26th January 1935.

(*g*) The Government do not consider it necessary to collect the information.

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that as a result of the introduction of revised scales of pay, a larger percentage of the people employed under the local boards are drawing higher pay than they used to get, and that it is only a small percentage that are drawing less than what they used to do?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"I am not aware of any such thing."

Preference to Graduates in filling the posts of Assistant Panchayat Officers.

* 520 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) in how many District Boards Assistant Panchayat Officers have been appointed as ordered in G.O. No. 2216, L. & M., dated 11th June 1935;

(*b*) what the names and addresses of persons appointed under each of the district boards for such posts are;

(*c*) whether the graduate clerks of the ex-taluk boards and of the district board have been given preference as ordered in the said Government Order for such appointment in each district;

(*d*) in how many districts such preference was not given and what the names of the districts and those of the individuals are whose claims have been overlooked; and

(*e*) whether representations have been received by the Inspector of Local Boards from such disappointed employees, and if so, from whom and what action has been taken thereon?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*b*) of question No. 348 delivered on the 31st October 1935.

(*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) Government have no information.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"May I ask, Sir, whether it is a fact that the appointments are made in consultation with and with due approval of the Inspector of Local Boards?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"The appointments are subject to the approval of the Inspector of Local Boards."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"If it is so, may I ask, Sir, if it is not possible for the Government to get the information easily?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"It is not impossible. But they cannot undertake to obtain the information from all the district boards in the presidency."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"If the Hon. Minister can obtain the information, it will show how far the Government Orders have been followed. Will not the Minister under these circumstances, be pleased to obtain the information?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"So far the Government have not received any complaints from graduate clerks and so they presume that, in making these appointments, the claims of graduates have been taken into consideration."

Mr. G. R. Premayya:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I ask, who on earth can get the information, if he is not able to obtain it?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"I have not stated that I cannot get the information. All I stated was that the information is not available with the Government. It will take a great deal of time to get the information. If the hon. Member will mention any particular case, I shall be glad to obtain the information."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"May I know if any qualifications have been prescribed for appointment as Assistant Panchayat Officers?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Yes, Sir."

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Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know, Sir, if these rules were followed in the case of the Assistant Panchayat Officer appointed in Anantapur district recently?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I can say that the rules have been followed."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Will the Hon. the Chief Minister call for information as to whether any Muhammadan was appointed to the post?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It is not possible in all cases to apply the communal principle to these appointments as in a great majority of cases persons doing similar duties in the district boards are appointed and in other cases appointments are made from district board and ex-taluk board employees."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Is it a fact that no Muhammadan has been appointed to the post?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I am not in a position to answer the question."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Will the Hon. the Minister suggest to the local bodies that some Muhammadans are appointed to the posts?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The difficulty is that the appointing authority is the president of the district board. The Government can only see that the rules are observed."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Will not the principle of communal representation be made applicable to these posts?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It has been applied to certain cases. But in the case of these appointments it is not possible to make it effective for the reason already stated."

Appointment of Muslims as Assistant Panchayat Officers.

* 521 *Q.*—Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Assistant Panchayat Officers appointed till now;

(*b*) the number of Muslims appointed to the said posts; and

(*c*) whether the proportion of the Muslim appointees is in accordance with the communal Government Order; if not, why not?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 350 delivered on the 31st October 1935.